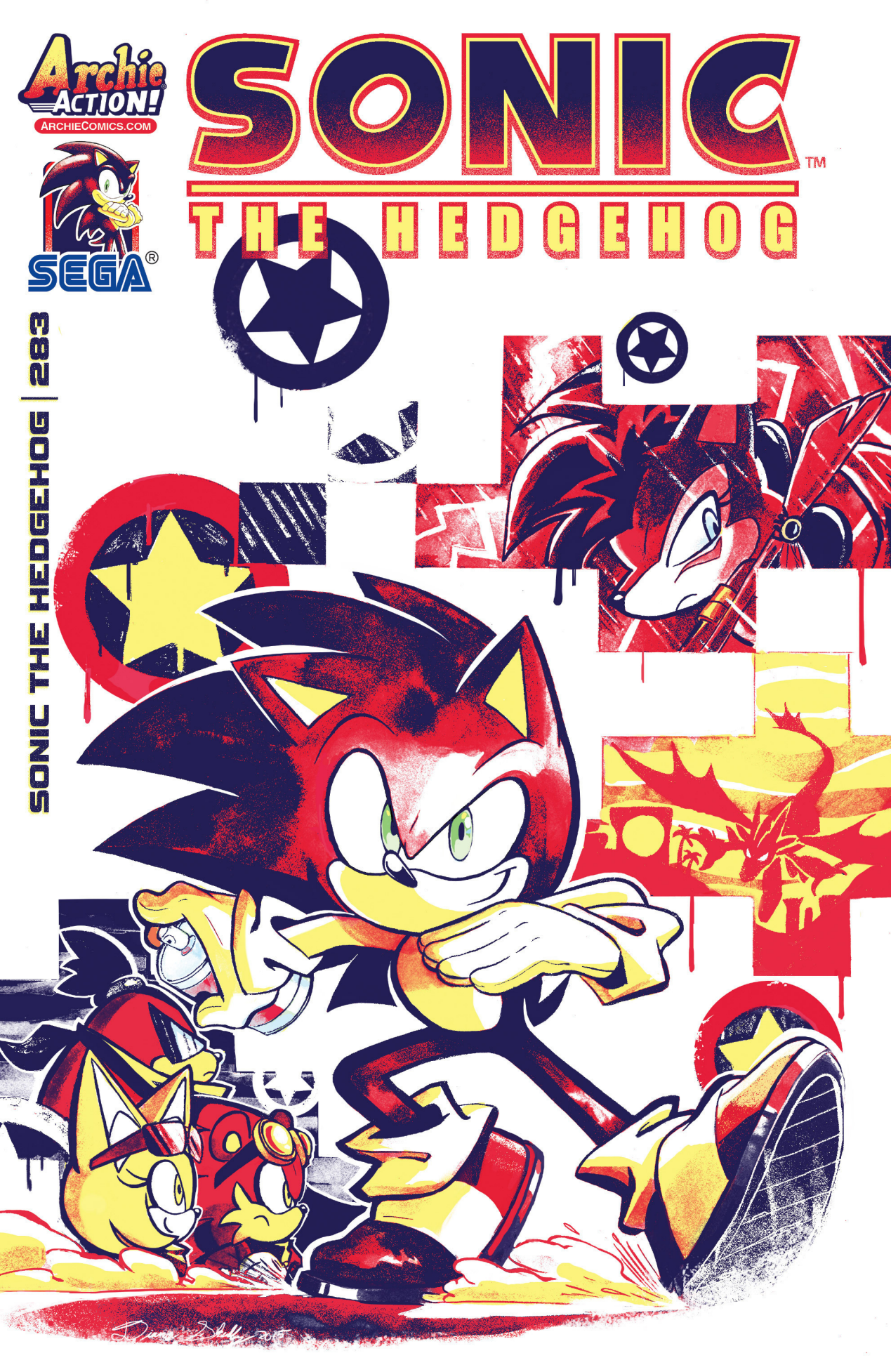
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SONIC™
THE HEDGEHOG
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SONIC THE HEDGEHOG | 283

Welcome to Sonic's comic book adventures—a world unique & beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Sonic and his friends work to save the world from the forces of evil!

CHARACTER SELECT

SONIC™ THE HEDGEHOG

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
WORLDWIDE HERO

SALLY ACORN
PRINCESS

CREAM THE RABBIT & CHEESE THE CHAO
YOUNG HEROS

VANILLA THE RABBIT
CREAM'S MOTHER

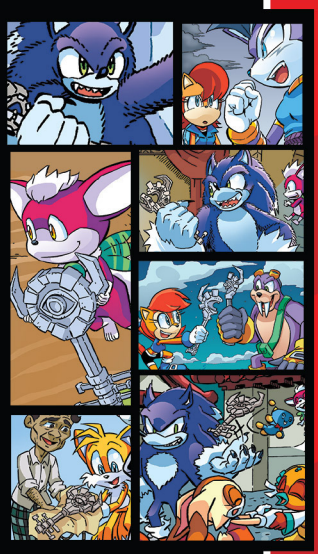
THE STORY SO FAR...

TEAM BUILDING

Sonic and the Freedom Fighters have traveled aboard their flying base, the Sky Patrol, in search of the artifacts needed to save their broken planet.

Staying one step ahead of the evil Dr. Eggman, Sonic and his team found all seven Chaos Emeralds and secured all seven Gaia Keys! All they need now to end the Shattered World Crisis is a plan!

But for all their success, they've yet to notice that the evil doctor's minion, Tails Doll, has infiltrated the Sky Patrol...



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ABOARD THE SKY PATROL...
C'MON, SAL! YOU LEAD US INTO BATTLE WITHOUT BREAKING A SWEAT. YOU CAN'T GET STAGE FRIGHT!
YOU HUSH!
OKAY --OKAY-- OKAY...
GOING ONLINE IN THREE ...TWO... ONE...
SALLY
SONIC
HEY ALL YOU AWESOME PEOPLE OUT THERE! SONIC AND SALLY OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS HERE!
THANK YOU ALL FOR CONNECTING WITH US AT THE SAME TIME. I KNOW IT'S LATE FOR SOME OF YOU. BUT WE HAVE A PLAN TO FIX THE PLANET IN ONE STROKE!

THE MISSION

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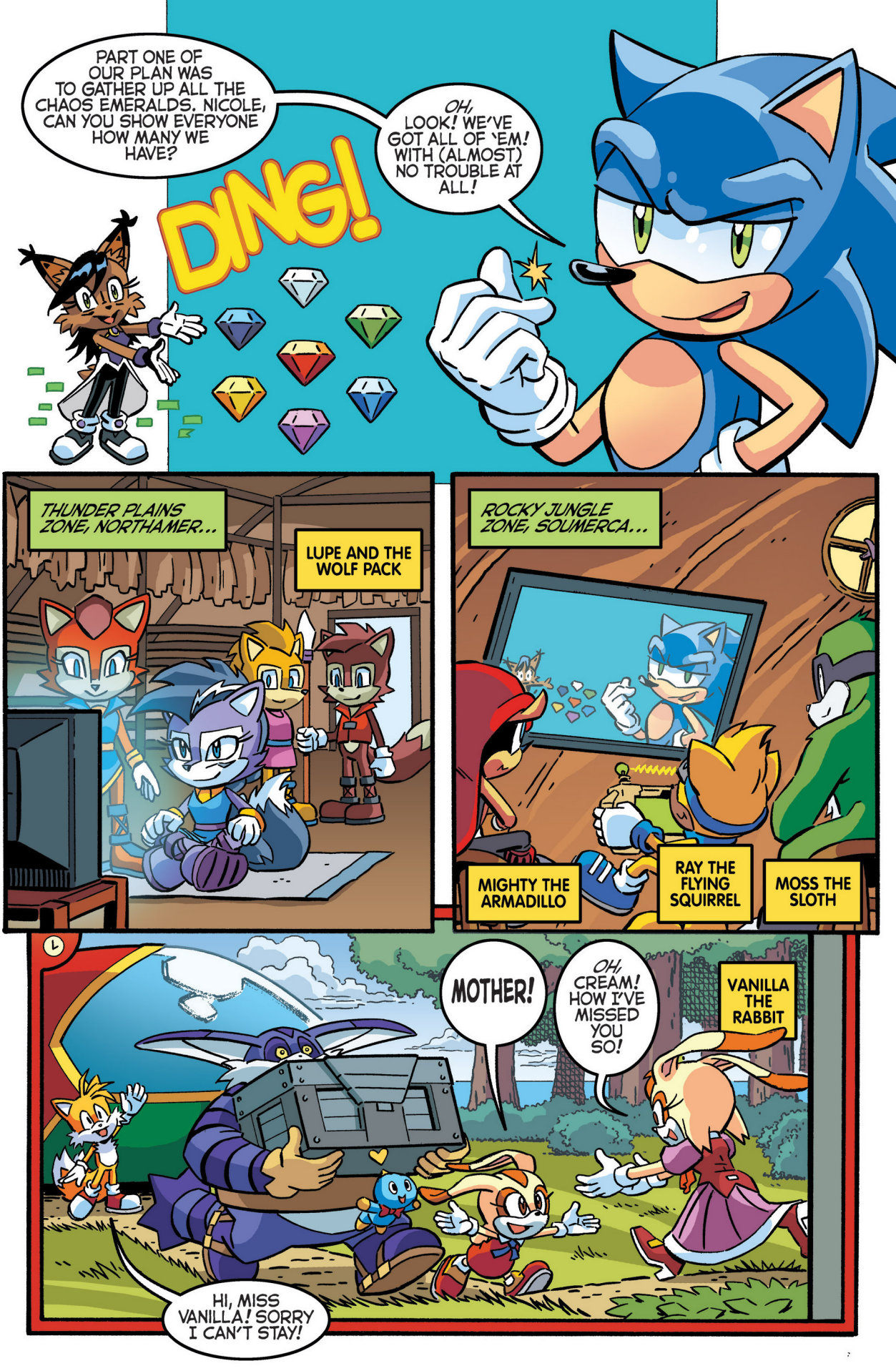
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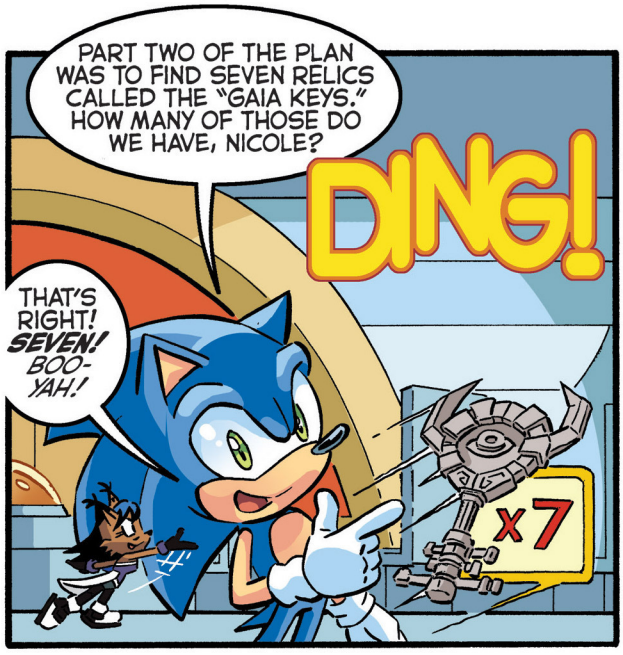
DING!
OH, LOOK! WE'VE GOT ALL OF 'EM! WITH (ALMOST) NO TROUBLE AT ALL!
THUNDER PLAINS ZONE, NORTHAMER...
LUPE AND THE WOLF PACK
ROCKY JUNGLE ZONE, SOUMERCA...
MIGHTY THE ARMADILLO
RAY THE FLYING SQUIRREL
MOSS THE SLOTH
MOTHER!
OH, CREAM! HOW I'VE MISSED YOU SO!
VANILLA THE RABBIT
HI, MISS VANILLA! SORRY I CAN'T STAY!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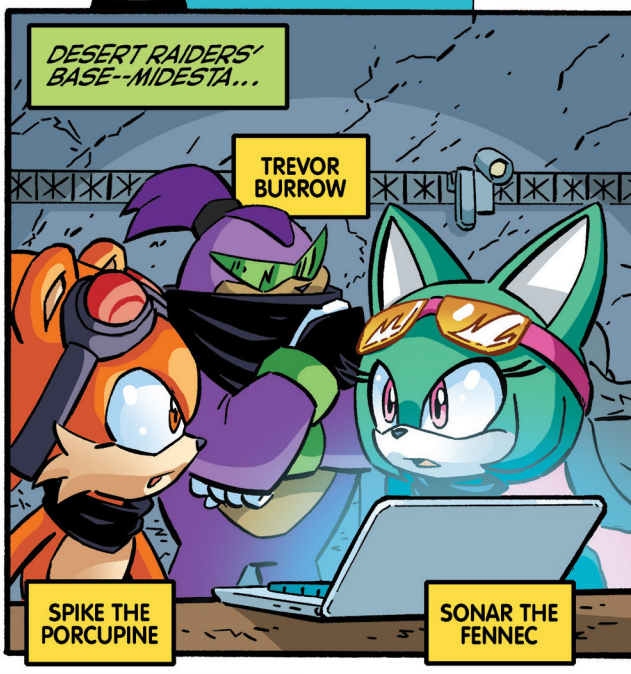
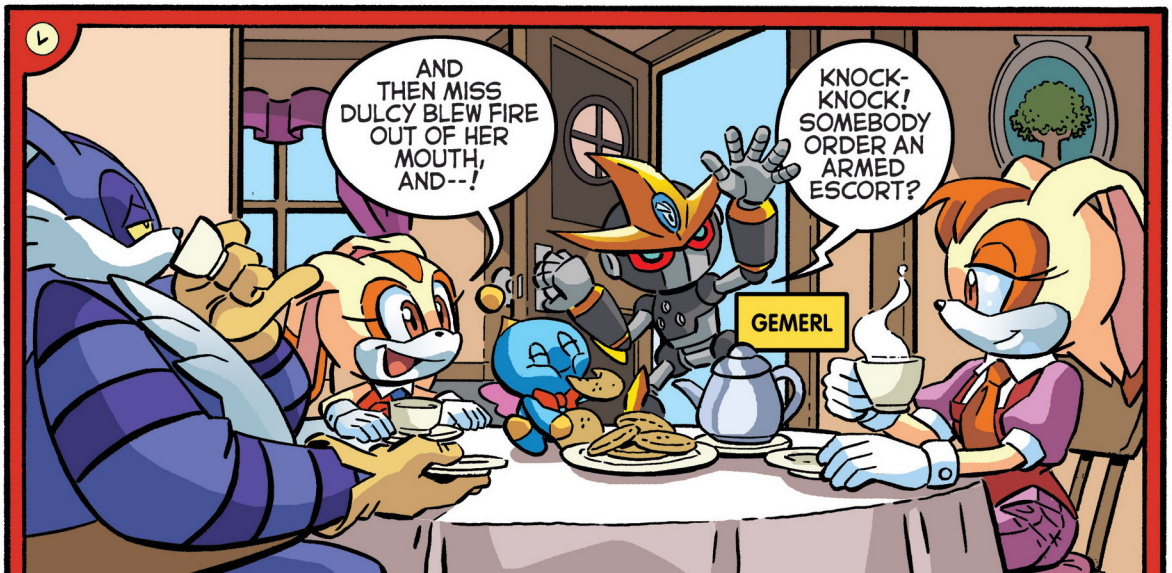
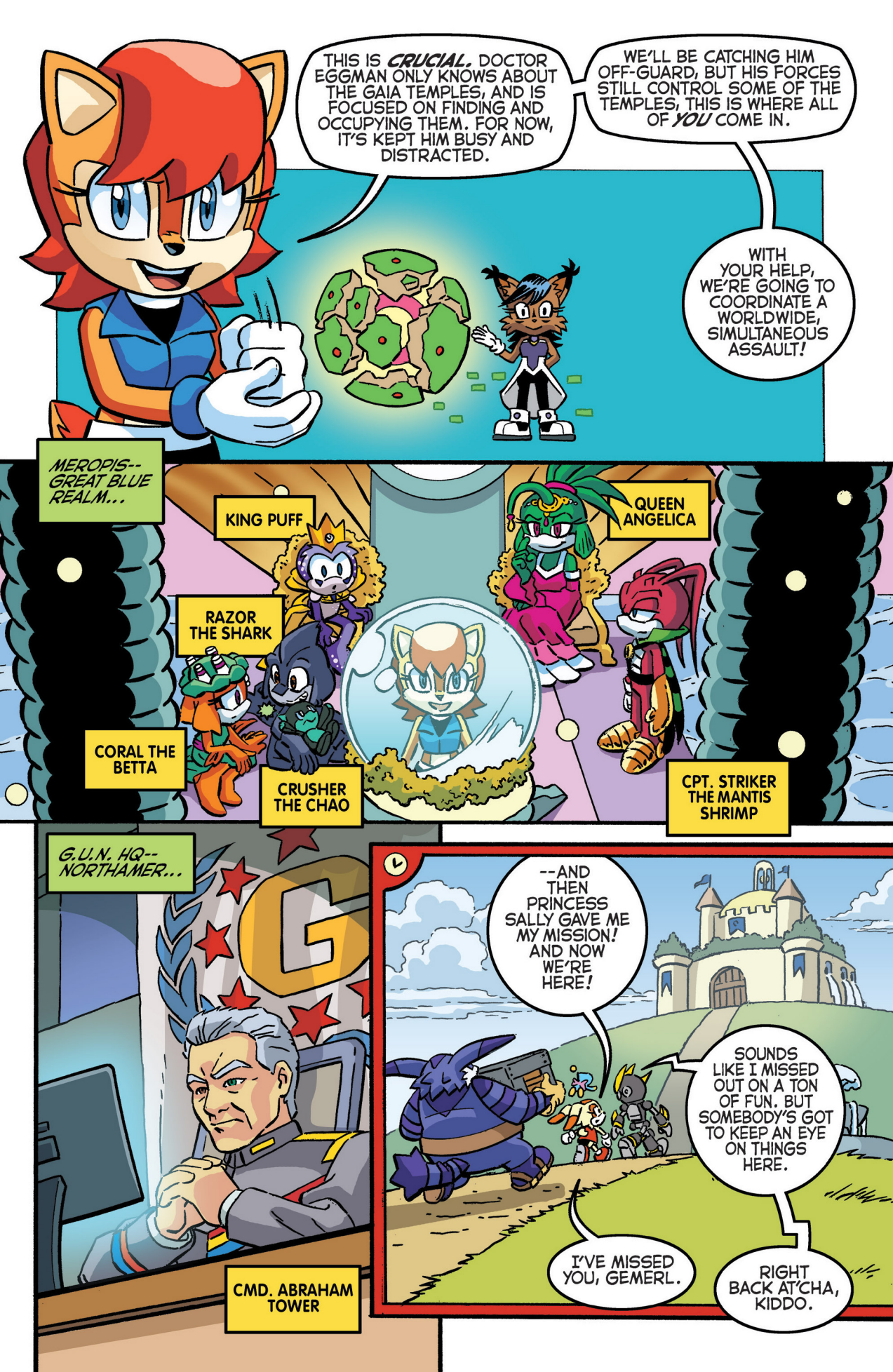
DING!
THAT'S RIGHT! SEVEN! BOO-YAH!
x7

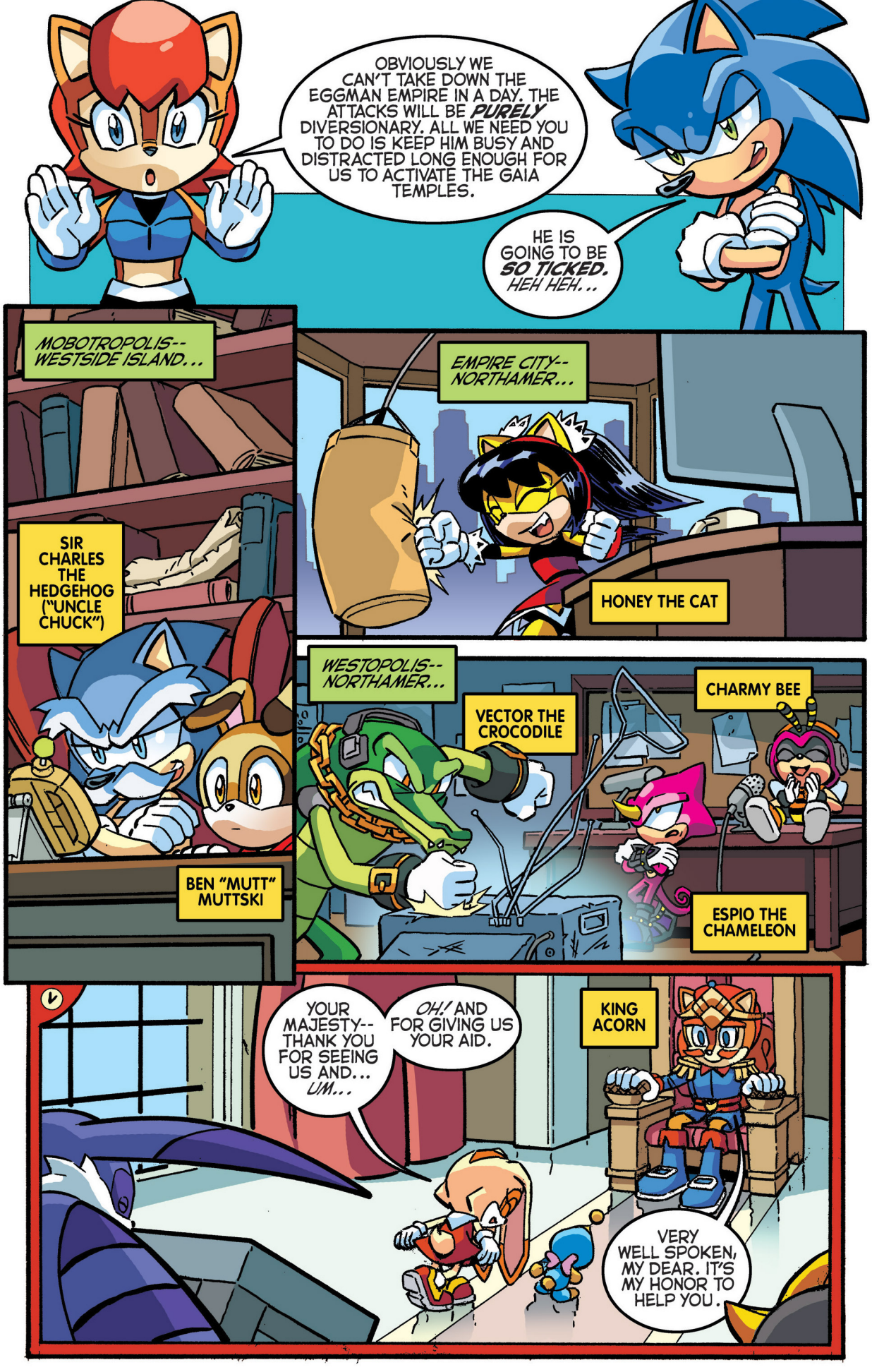
NORMALLY, WE WOULD NEED TO DELIVER EACH CHAOS EMERALD TO A GAIA TEMPLE TO ACTIVATE AN ANCIENT RITE TO RESTORE THE WORLD.
THESE GAIA KEYS, HOWEVER, WILL ALLOW US TO ACCESS ALL OF THE GAIA TEMPLES AT ONCE, AND ALL FROM A SINGLE LOCATION.

SHIJIN SHRINE--YURASHIA...
DULCY THE DRAGON
BUNKER THE TORTOISE
JIAN THE TIGER
CINDER THE PHEASANT


DESERT RAIDERS' BASE--MIDESTA...
TREVOR BURROW
SPIKE THE PORCUPINE
SONAR THE FENNEC


AND THEN MISS DULCY BLEW FIRE OUT OF HER MOUTH, AND--!
KNOCK-KNOCK! SOMEBODY ORDER AN ARMED ESCORT?
GEMERL


THIS IS CRUCIAL. DOCTOR EGGMAN ONLY KNOWS ABOUT THE GAIA TEMPLES, AND IS FOCUSED ON FINDING AND OCCUPYING THEM. FOR NOW, IT'S KEPT HIM BUSY AND DISTRACTED.
WE'LL BE CATCHING HIM OFF-GUARD, BUT HIS FORCES STILL CONTROL SOME OF THE TEMPLES, THIS IS WHERE ALL OF YOU COME IN.
WITH YOUR HELP, WE'RE GOING TO COORDINATE A WORLDWIDE, SIMULTANEOUS ASSAULT!
MEROPIS-- GREAT BLUE REALM...
KING PUFF
QUEEN ANGELICA
RAZOR THE SHARK
CORAL THE BETTA
CRUSHER THE CHAO
CPT. STRIKER THE MANTIS SHRIMP
G.U.N. HQ-- NORTHAMER...
CMD. ABRAHAM TOWER
--AND THEN PRINCESS SALLY GAVE ME MY MISSION! AND NOW WE'RE HERE!
SOUNDS LIKE I MISSED OUT ON A TON OF FUN. BUT SOMEBODY'S GOT TO KEEP AN EYE ON THINGS HERE.
I'VE MISSED YOU, GEMERL.
RIGHT BACK AT'CHA, KIDDO.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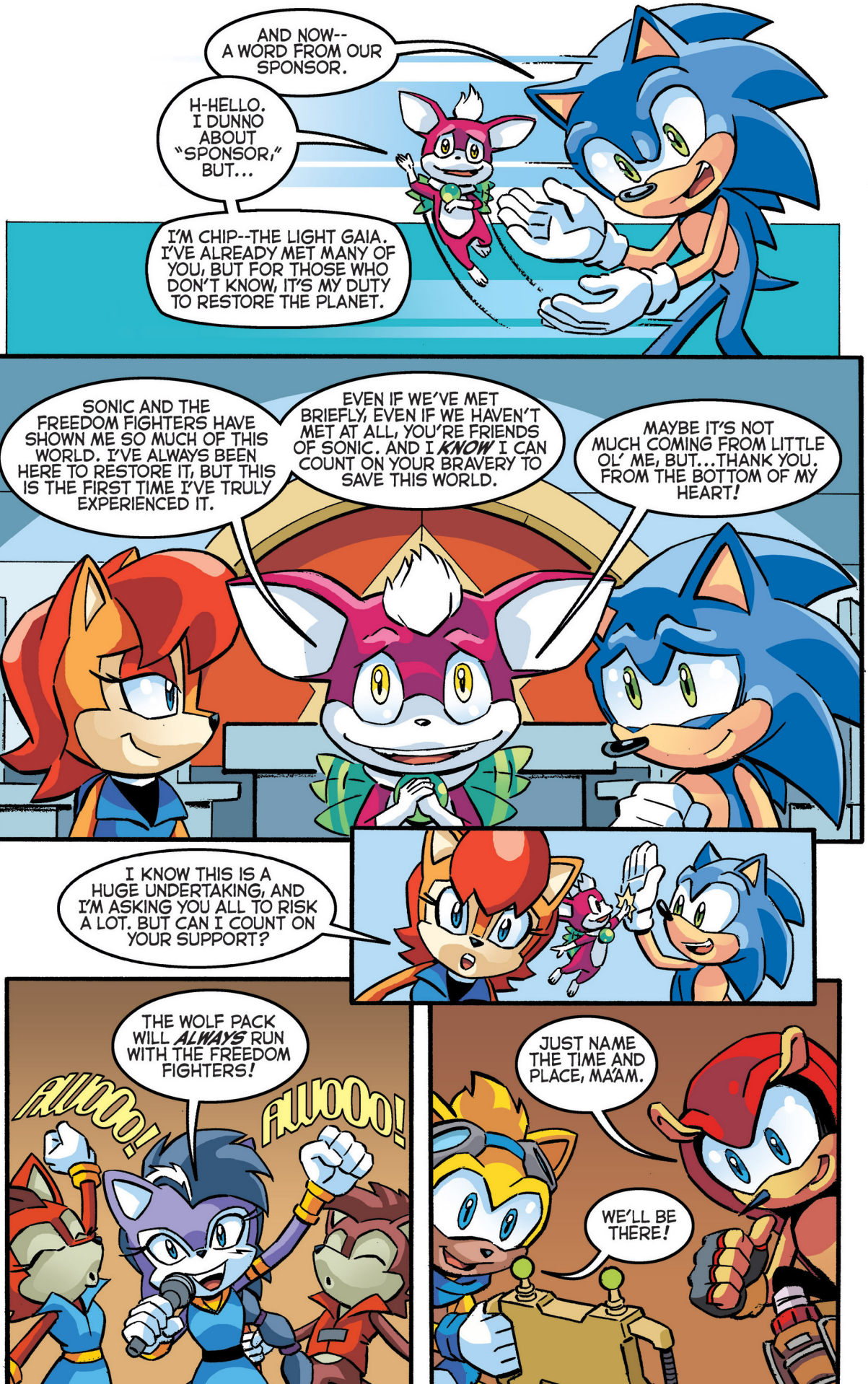
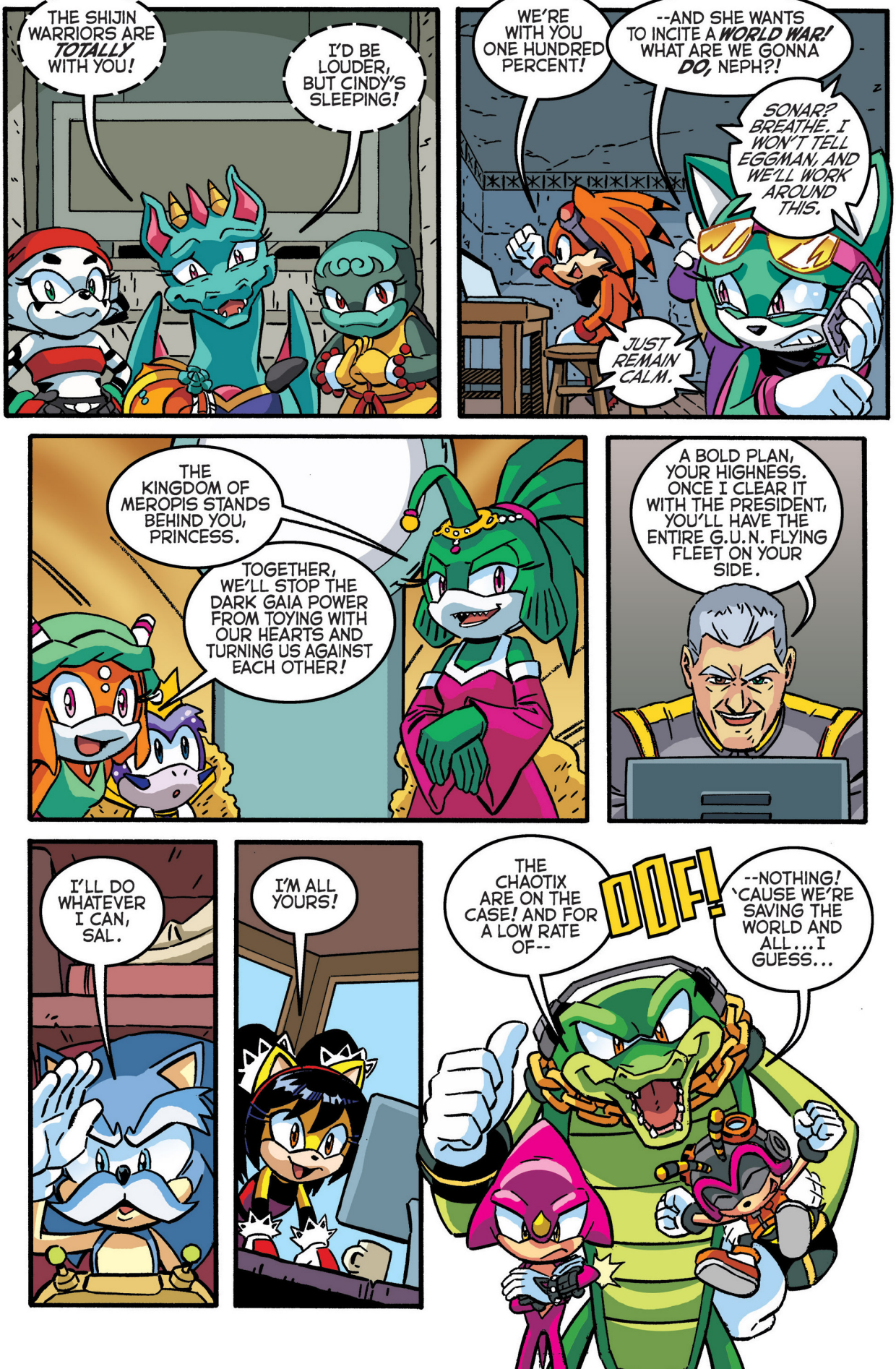
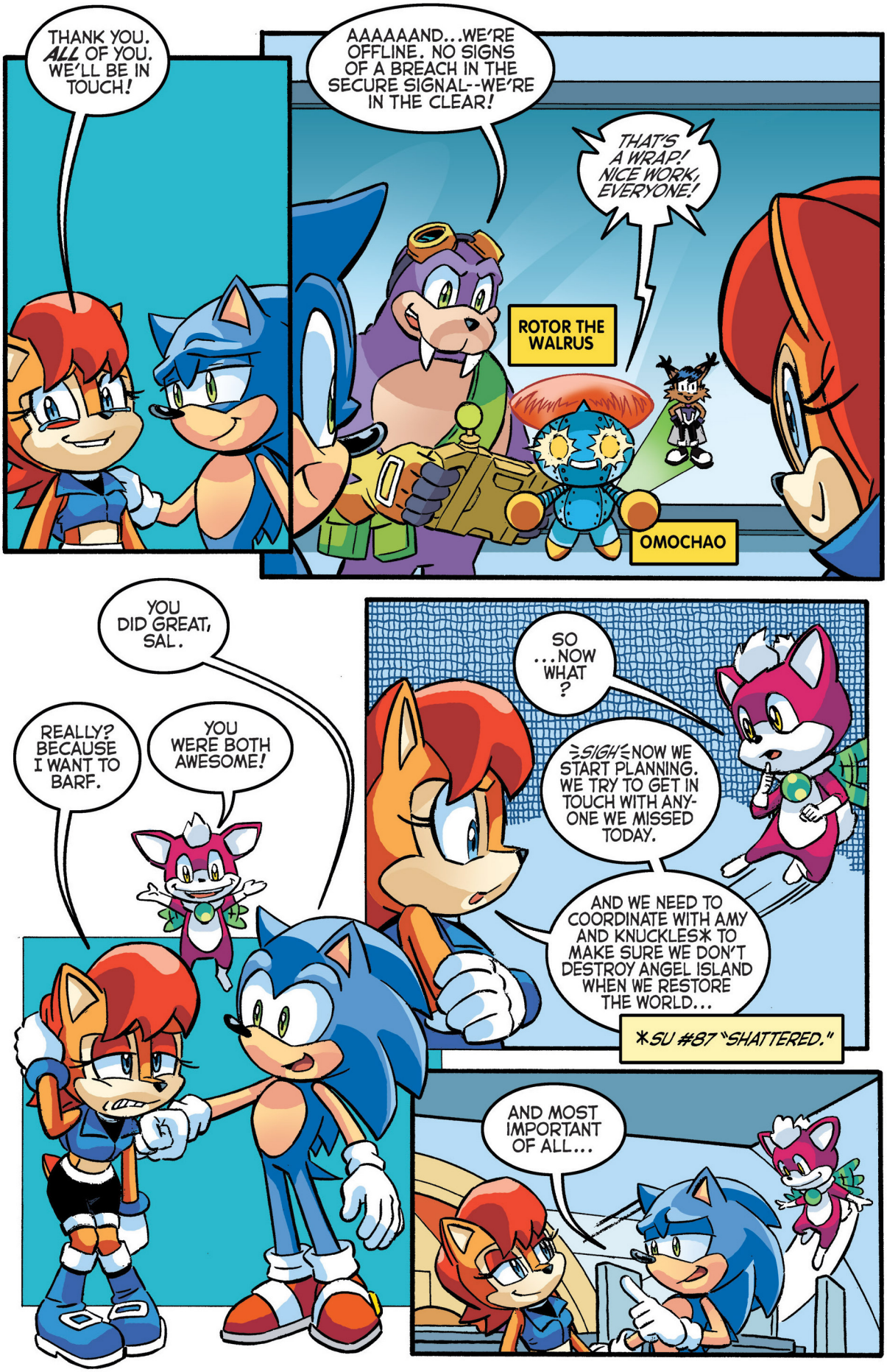
HE IS GOING TO BE SO TICKED. HEH HEH...
MOBOTROPOLIS-- WESTSIDE ISLAND...
SIR CHARLES THE HEDGEHOG ("UNCLE CHUCK")
BEN "MUTT" MUTTSKI
EMPIRE CITY-- NORTHAMER...
HONEY THE CAT
WESTOPOLIS-- NORTHAMER...
VECTOR THE CROCODILE
CHARMY BEE
ESPIO THE CHAMELEON
YOUR MAJESTY-- THANK YOU FOR SEEING US AND... UM...
OH! AND FOR GIVING US YOUR AID.
KING ACORN
VERY WELL SPOKEN, MY DEAR. IT'S MY HONOR TO HELP YOU.

THIS WILL TAKE SOME TIME TO COORDINATE. SO IN THE MEANWHILE, I'VE SENT TWO OF OUR BEST TO MOBOTROPOLIS UNDER THE GUISE OF A "FAMILY VISIT."
THE CHAOS EMERALDS AND GAIA KEYS WILL BE SAFELY--AND SECRETLY--HELD IN THE VAULT OF CASTLE ACORN UNTIL IT'S TIME TO STRIKE.
MEANWHILE, WE'LL REMAIN EGG-HEAD'S PRIMARY TARGET WHILE THE REST OF YOU GET THINGS SET UP. NOTHING WE CAN'T HANDLE, OF COURSE.


AND NOW-- A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR.
H-HELLO. I DUNNO ABOUT "SPONSOR," BUT...
I'M CHIP--THE LIGHT GAIA. I'VE ALREADY MET MANY OF YOU, BUT FOR THOSE WHO DON'T KNOW, IT'S MY DUTY TO RESTORE THE PLANET.
SONIC AND THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS HAVE SHOWN ME SO MUCH OF THIS WORLD. I'VE ALWAYS BEEN HERE TO RESTORE IT, BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE TRULY EXPERIENCED IT.
EVEN IF WE'VE MET BRIEFLY, EVEN IF WE HAVEN'T MET AT ALL, YOU'RE FRIENDS OF SONIC. AND I KNOW I CAN COUNT ON YOUR BRAVERY TO SAVE THIS WORLD.
MAYBE IT'S NOT MUCH COMING FROM LITTLE OL' ME, BUT...THANK YOU. FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART!
I KNOW THIS IS A HUGE UNDERTAKING, AND I'M ASKING YOU ALL TO RISK A LOT. BUT CAN I COUNT ON YOUR SUPPORT?
THE WOLF PACK WILL ALWAYS RUN WITH THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS!
AUUOO!
AUUOO!
JUST NAME THE TIME AND PLACE, MA'AM.
WE'LL BE THERE!


THE SHIJIN WARRIORS ARE TOTALLY WITH YOU!
I'D BE LOUDER, BUT CINDY'S SLEEPING!
WE'RE WITH YOU ONE HUNDRED PERCENT!
--AND SHE WANTS TO INCITE A WORLD WAR! WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO, NEPH?!
SONAR? BREATHE. I WON'T TELL EGGMAN, AND WE'LL WORK AROUND THIS.
JUST REMAIN CALM.
THE KINGDOM OF MEROPIS STANDS BEHIND YOU, PRINCESS.
TOGETHER, WE'LL STOP THE DARK GAIA POWER FROM TOYING WITH OUR HEARTS AND TURNING US AGAINST EACH OTHER!
A BOLD PLAN, YOUR HIGHNESS. ONCE I CLEAR IT WITH THE PRESIDENT, YOU'LL HAVE THE ENTIRE G.U.N. FLYING FLEET ON YOUR SIDE.
I'LL DO WHATEVER I CAN, SAL.
I'M ALL YOURS!
THE CHAOTIX ARE ON THE CASE! AND FOR A LOW RATE OF--
OOF!
--NOTHING! 'CAUSE WE'RE SAVING THE WORLD AND ALL... I GUESS...


THANK YOU. ALL OF YOU. WE'LL BE IN TOUCH!
AAAAAAND...WE'RE OFFLINE. NO SIGNS OF A BREACH IN THE SECURE SIGNAL--WE'RE IN THE CLEAR!
THAT'S A WRAP! NICE WORK, EVERYONE!
ROTOR THE WALRUS
OMOCHAO
YOU DID GREAT, SAL.
REALLY? BECAUSE I WANT TO BARF.
YOU WERE BOTH AWESOME!
SO ...NOW WHAT?
≥SIGH≤ NOW WE START PLANNING. WE TRY TO GET IN TOUCH WITH ANY-ONE WE MISSED TODAY.
AND WE NEED TO COORDINATE WITH AMY AND KNUCKLES* TO MAKE SURE WE DON'T DESTROY ANGEL ISLAND WHEN WE RESTORE THE WORLD...
*SU #87 "SHATTERED."
AND MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL...

...WE PLAN THE BIGGEST VICTORY PARTY EVER!
YEAH!
WHOA-HA-HA-HA!
TRANSMITTING...
SCHLRP SCHLRP
SONIC AND THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS HAVE A PLAN!
DR. EGGMAN HAS A SPY!
THIS CAN'T END WELL.
THE STORY CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE!

ZERO HOUR

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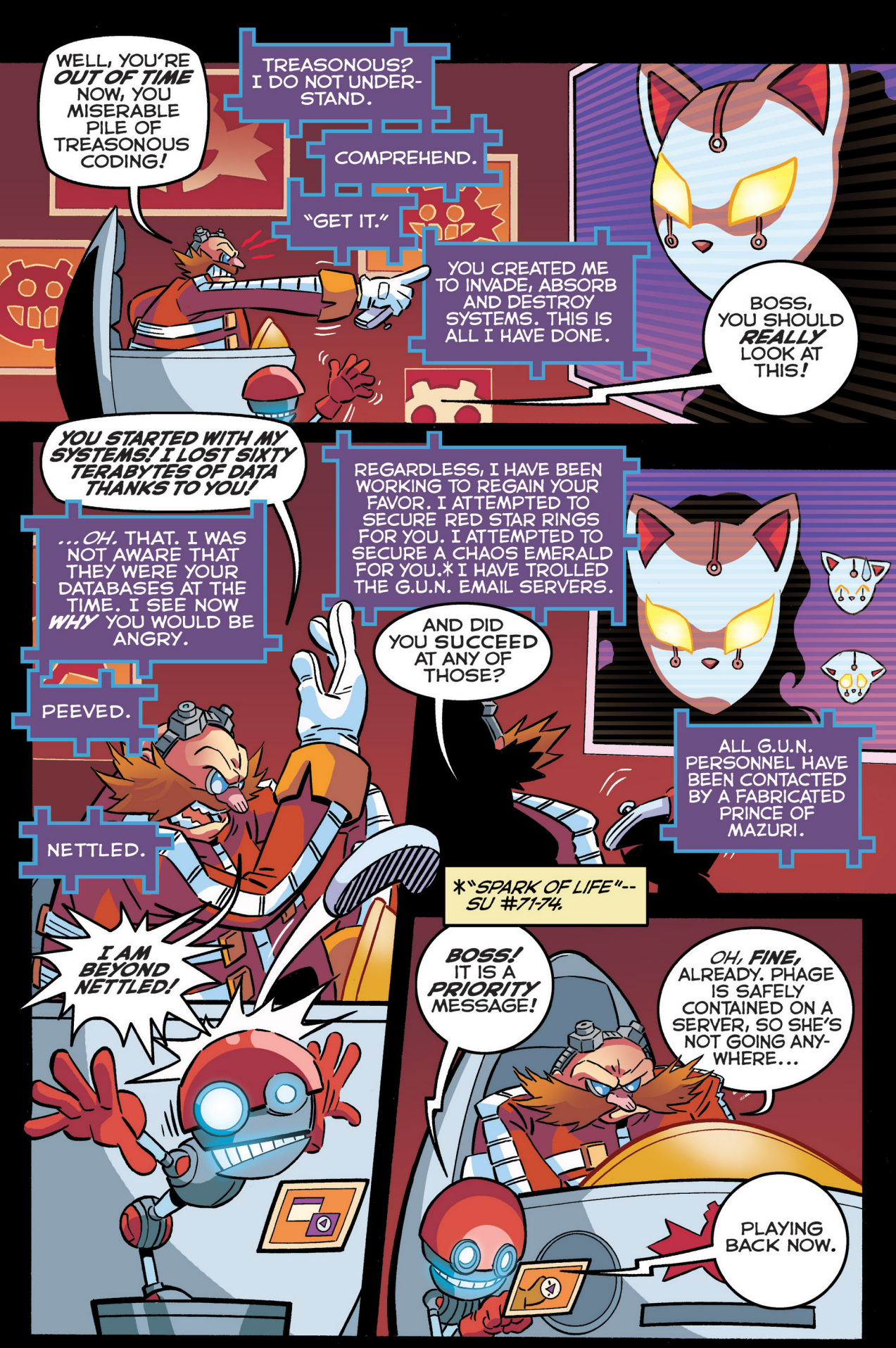
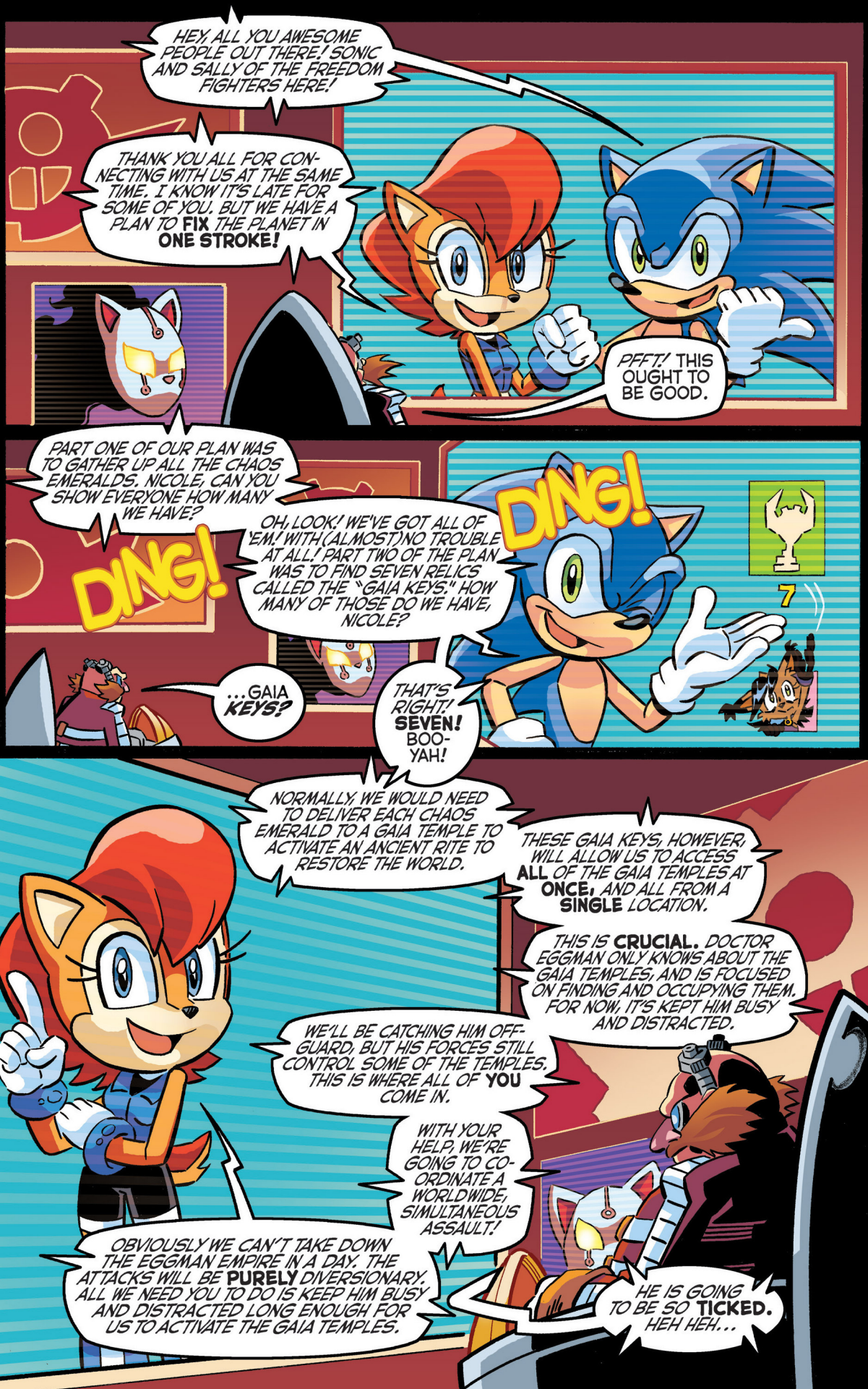
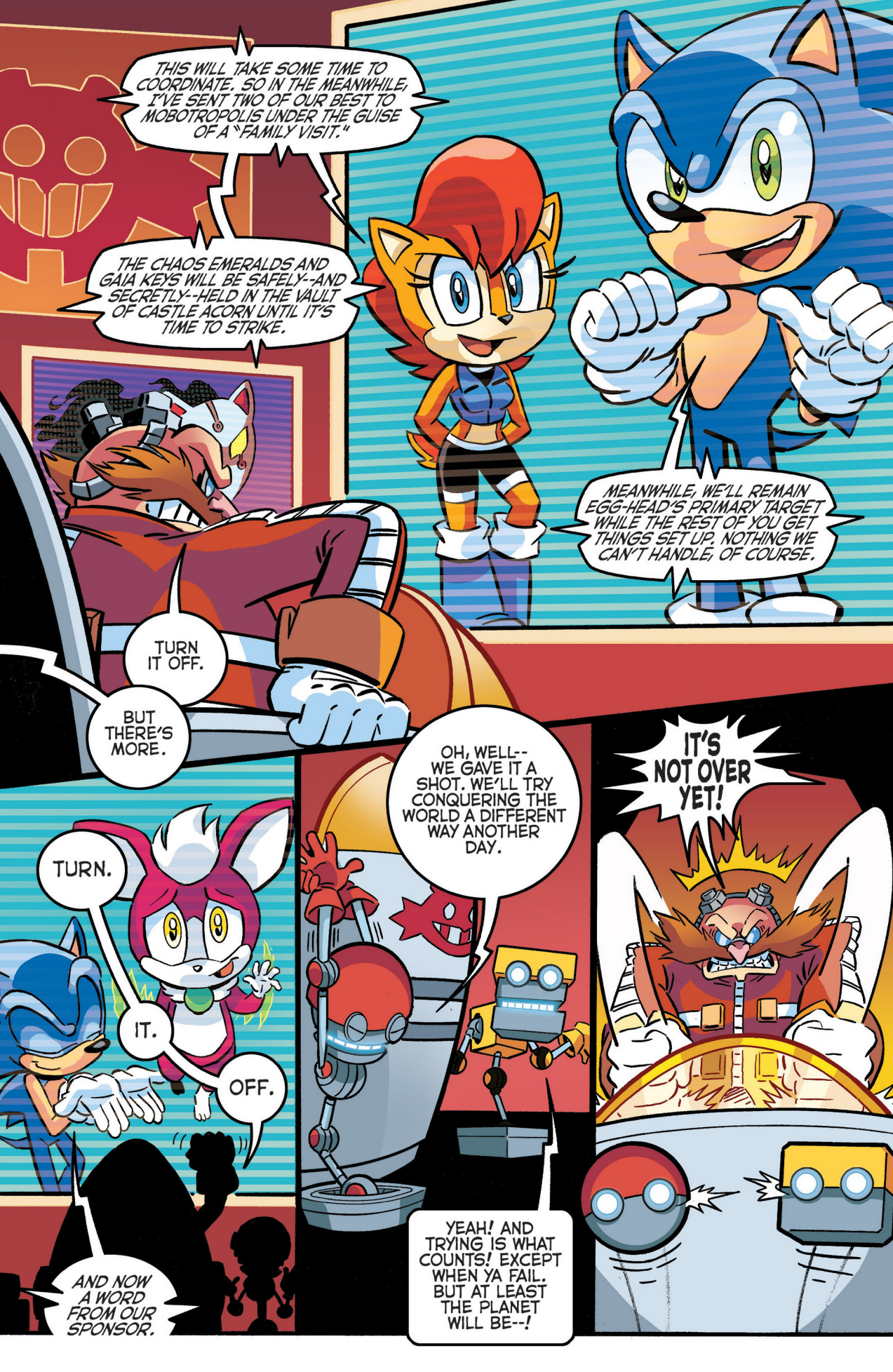
PENCILS: JENNIFER HERNANDEZ
INKS: TERRY AUSTIN
COLORS: GABRIEL CASSATA
LETTERS: JOHN WORKMAN


WELL, YOU'RE OUT OF TIME NOW, YOU MISERABLE PILE OF TREASONOUS CODING!
TREASONOUS? I DO NOT UNDERSTAND.
COMPREHEND.
"GET IT."
YOU CREATED ME TO INVADE, ABSORB AND DESTROY SYSTEMS. THIS IS ALL I HAVE DONE.
BOSS, YOU SHOULD REALLY LOOK AT THIS!
YOU STARTED WITH MY SYSTEMS! I LOST SIXTY TERABYTES OF DATA THANKS TO YOU!
...OH. THAT. I WAS NOT AWARE THAT THEY WERE YOUR DATABASES AT THE TIME. I SEE NOW WHY YOU WOULD BE ANGRY.
REGARDLESS, I HAVE BEEN WORKING TO REGAIN YOUR FAVOR. I ATTEMPTED TO SECURE RED STAR RINGS FOR YOU. I ATTEMPTED TO SECURE A CHAOS EMERALD FOR YOU.* I HAVE TROLLED THE G.U.N. EMAIL SERVERS.
AND DID YOU SUCCEED AT ANY OF THOSE?
PEEVED.
NETTLED.
I AM BEYOND NETTLED!
ALL G.U.N. PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN CONTACTED BY A FABRICATED PRINCE OF MAZURI.
*"SPARK OF LIFE"--SU #71-74.
BOSS! IT IS A PRIORITY MESSAGE!
OH, FINE, ALREADY. PHAGE IS SAFELY CONTAINED ON A SERVER, SO SHE'S NOT GOING ANYWHERE...
PLAYING BACK NOW.


HEY, ALL YOU AWESOME PEOPLE OUT THERE! SONIC AND SALLY OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS HERE!
THANK YOU ALL FOR CONNECTING WITH US AT THE SAME TIME. I KNOW IT'S LATE FOR SOME OF YOU. BUT WE HAVE A PLAN TO **FIX** THE PLANET IN **ONE STROKE!**
PFFT! THIS OUGHT TO BE GOOD.
PART ONE OF OUR PLAN WAS TO GATHER UP ALL THE CHAOS EMERALDS. NICOLE, CAN YOU SHOW EVERYONE HOW MANY WE HAVE?
DING!
OH, LOOK! WE'VE GOT ALL OF 'EM! WITH (ALMOST) NO TROUBLE AT ALL! PART TWO OF THE PLAN WAS TO FIND SEVEN RELICS CALLED THE "GAIA KEYS." HOW MANY OF THOSE DO WE HAVE, NICOLE?
DING!
7
...GAIA ***KEYS?***
THAT'S RIGHT! **SEVEN!** BOO-YAH!
NORMALLY, WE WOULD NEED TO DELIVER EACH CHAOS EMERALD TO A GAIA TEMPLE TO ACTIVATE AN ANCIENT RITE TO RESTORE THE WORLD.
THESE GAIA KEYS, HOWEVER, WILL ALLOW US TO ACCESS **ALL** OF THE GAIA TEMPLES AT **ONCE,** AND ALL FROM A **SINGLE** LOCATION.
THIS IS **CRUCIAL.** DOCTOR EGGMAN ONLY KNOWS ABOUT THE GAIA TEMPLES, AND IS FOCUSED ON FINDING AND OCCUPYING THEM. FOR NOW, IT'S KEPT HIM BUSY AND DISTRACTED.
WE'LL BE CATCHING HIM OFF-GUARD, BUT HIS FORCES STILL CONTROL SOME OF THE TEMPLES. THIS IS WHERE ALL OF **YOU** COME IN.
WITH YOUR HELP, WE'RE GOING TO CO-ORDINATE A WORLDWIDE, SIMULTANEOUS ASSAULT!
OBVIOUSLY WE CAN'T TAKE DOWN THE EGGMAN EMPIRE IN A DAY. THE ATTACKS WILL BE **PURELY** DIVERSIONARY. ALL WE NEED YOU TO DO IS KEEP HIM BUSY AND DISTRACTED LONG ENOUGH FOR US TO ACTIVATE THE GAIA TEMPLES.
HE IS GOING TO BE SO **TICKED.** HEH HEH...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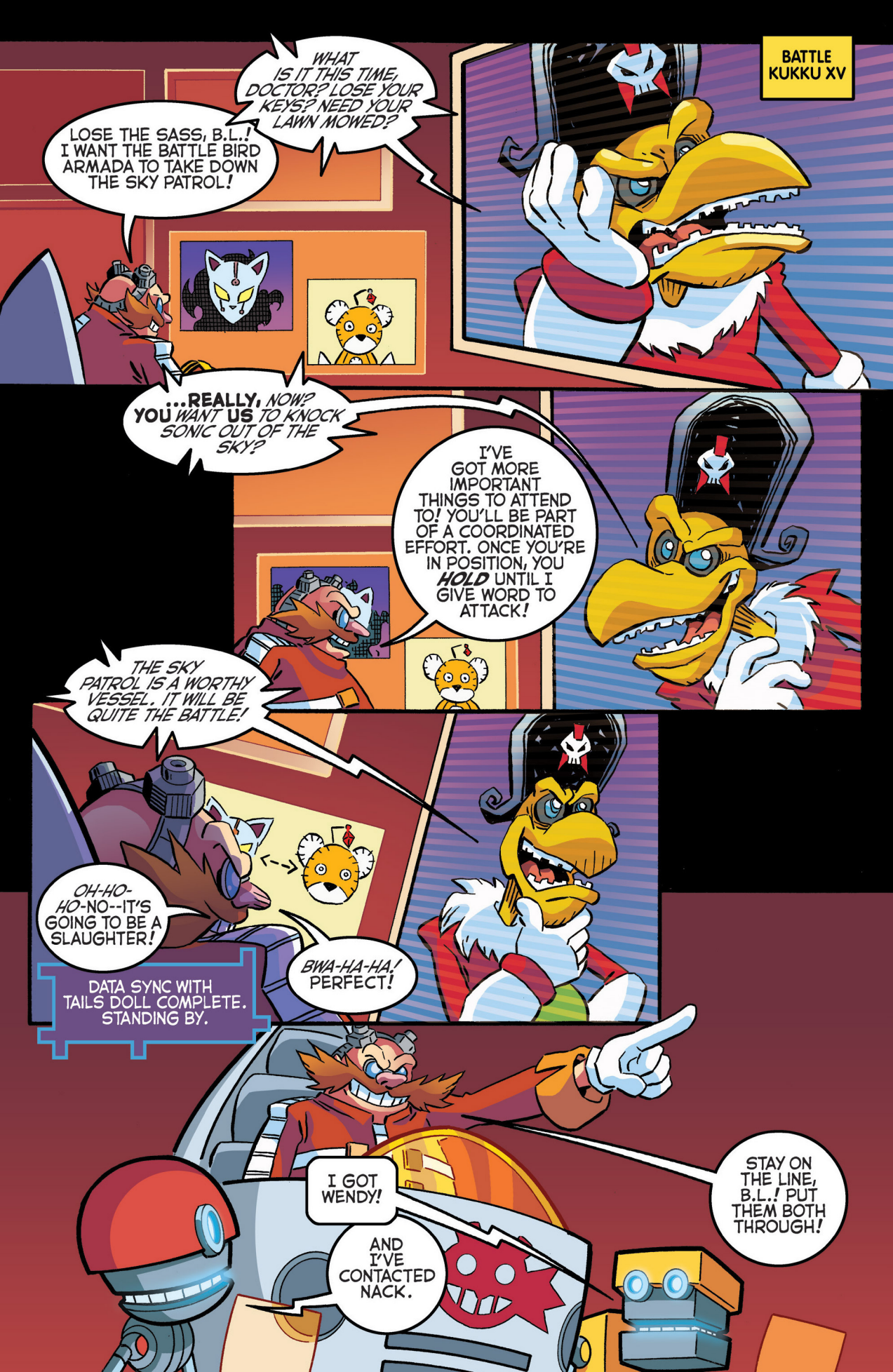
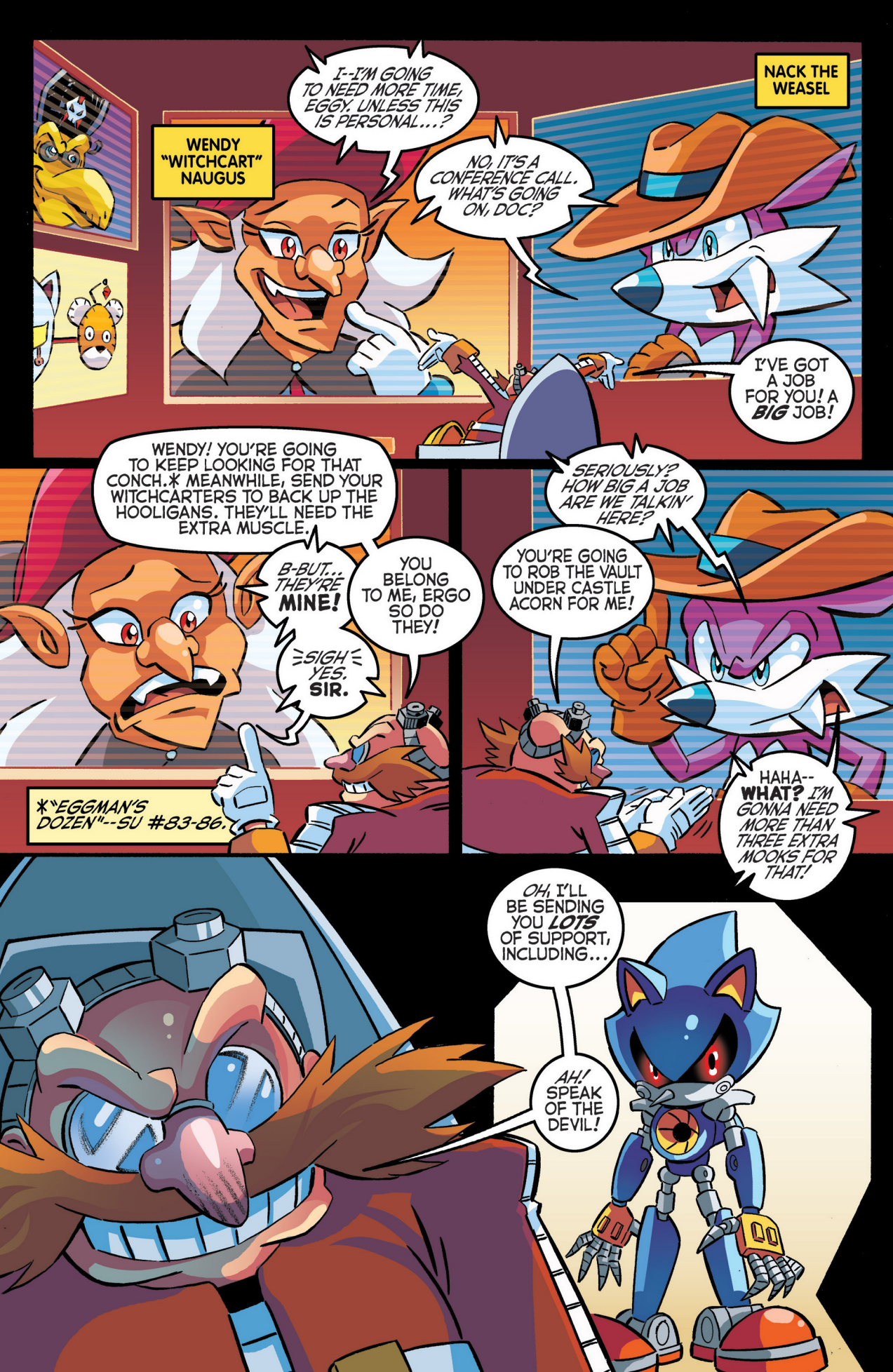
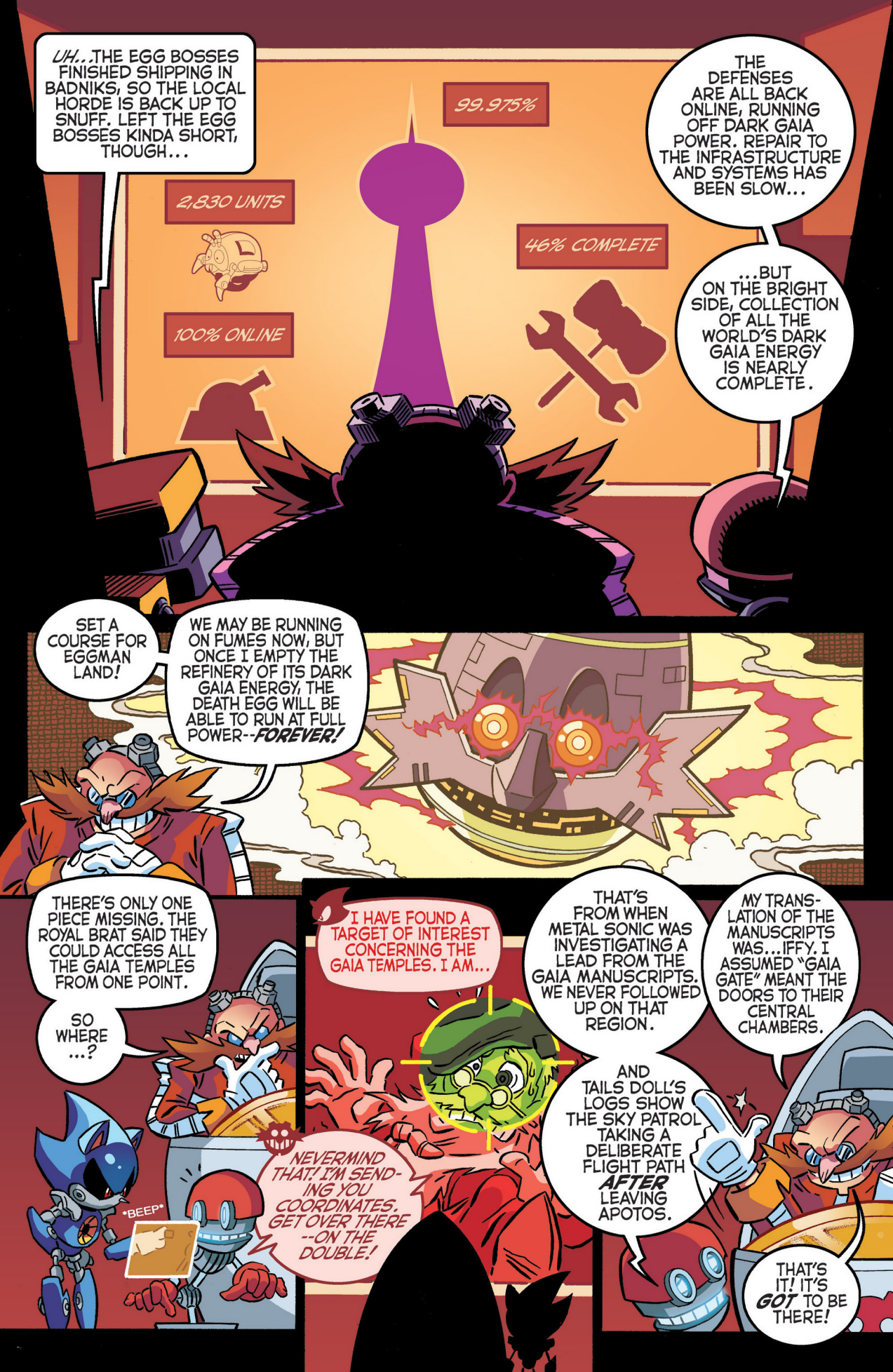
MEANWHILE, WE'LL REMAIN EGG-HEAD'S PRIMARY TARGET WHILE THE REST OF YOU GET THINGS SET UP. NOTHING WE CAN'T HANDLE, OF COURSE.
TURN IT OFF.
BUT THERE'S MORE.
TURN.
IT.
OFF.
AND NOW A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR.
OH, WELL-- WE GAVE IT A SHOT. WE'LL TRY CONQUERING THE WORLD A DIFFERENT WAY ANOTHER DAY.
YEAH! AND TRYING IS WHAT COUNTS! EXCEPT WHEN YA FAIL. BUT AT LEAST THE PLANET WILL BE--!
IT'S NOT OVER YET!

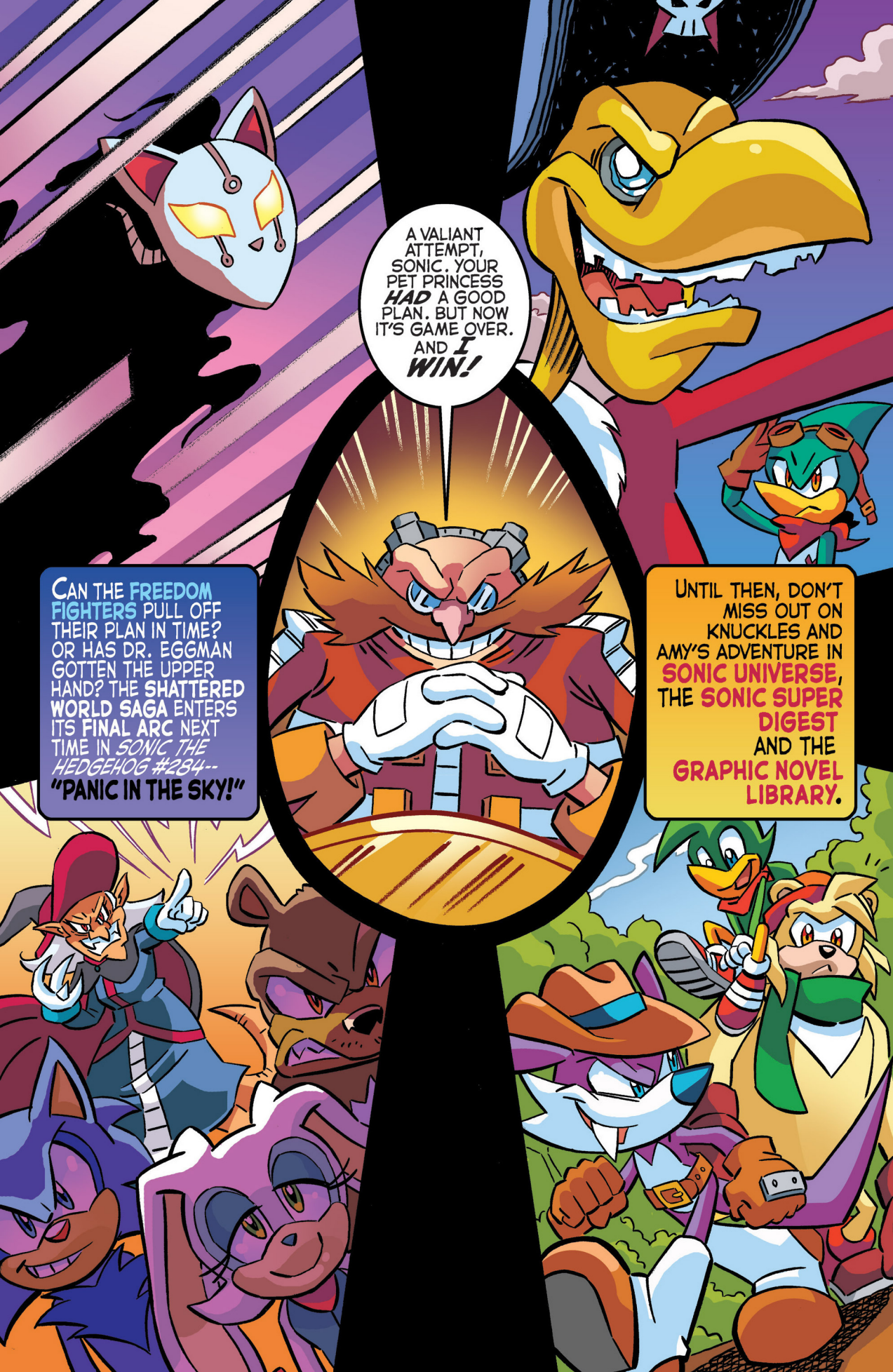
YE--HEH--HEHSSS...
HA HA HA! YES! YES!
PHAGE! YOU WANT TO MAKE AMENDS?
GLADLY. I AM MADE TO SERVE.
THEN YOU WILL DO EXACTLY AS I INSTRUCT! STAND BY FOR FURTHER DIRECTIONS!
CUE UP SOME CALLS! CUBOT--PUT PHAGE IN CONTACT WITH TAILS DOLL! THEN GET WENDY ON THE LINE!
ORBOT! CALL THE BATTLE LORD! THEN GET ME THE HOOLIGANS!
COMMAND DECK TO METAL SONIC! FRONT AND CENTER!


BATTLE KUKKU XV
WHAT IS IT THIS TIME, DOCTOR? LOSE YOUR KEYS? NEED YOUR LAWN MOWED?
LOSE THE SASS, B.L.! I WANT THE BATTLE BIRD ARMADA TO TAKE DOWN THE SKY PATROL!
...REALLY, NOW? YOU WANT US TO KNOCK SONIC OUT OF THE SKY?
I'VE GOT MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO ATTEND TO! YOU'LL BE PART OF A COORDINATED EFFORT. ONCE YOU'RE IN POSITION, YOU HOLD UNTIL I GIVE WORD TO ATTACK!
THE SKY PATROL IS A WORTHY VESSEL. IT WILL BE QUITE THE BATTLE!
OH-HO-HO-NO--IT'S GOING TO BE A SLAUGHTER!
BWA-HA-HA! PERFECT!
DATA SYNC WITH TAILS DOLL COMPLETE. STANDING BY.
I GOT WENDY!
AND I'VE CONTACTED NACK.
STAY ON THE LINE, B.L.! PUT THEM BOTH THROUGH!


WENDY "WITCHCART" NAUGUS
I--I'M GOING TO NEED MORE TIME, EGGY. UNLESS THIS IS PERSONAL...?
NO, IT'S A CONFERENCE CALL. WHAT'S GOING ON, DOC?
NACK THE WEASEL
I'VE GOT A JOB FOR YOU! A BIG JOB!
WENDY! YOU'RE GOING TO KEEP LOOKING FOR THAT CONCH.* MEANWHILE, SEND YOUR WITCHCARTERS TO BACK UP THE HOOLIGANS. THEY'LL NEED THE EXTRA MUSCLE.
B-BUT... THEY'RE MINE!
YOU BELONG TO ME, ERGO SO DO THEY!
=SIGH= YES, SIR.
*"EGGMAN'S DOZEN"--SU #83-86.
SERIOUSLY? HOW BIG A JOB ARE WE TALKIN' HERE?
YOU'RE GOING TO ROB THE VAULT UNDER CASTLE ACORN FOR ME!
HAHA-- WHAT? I'M GONNA NEED MORE THAN THREE EXTRA MOOKS FOR THAT!
OH, I'LL BE SENDING YOU LOTS OF SUPPORT, INCLUDING...
AH! SPEAK OF THE DEVIL!

PHAGE! I'M LETTING YOU BACK ONLINE! B.L.! GET THE BATTLE FORTRESS INTO POSITION! WENDY! SEND YOUR MINIONS TO WESTSIDE ISLAND! NACK! YOU AND YOUR BOYS MEET THEM THERE!
I'LL HAVE DETAILED ORDERS FOR YOU WHEN YOU'RE ALL IN PLACE!
UNDERSTOOD.
AYE-AYE!
GRR... FINE.
YOU'RE SERIOUS. THIS'LL BE INTERESTING.
THOSE FREEDOM FIGHTER FOOLS DON'T REALIZE THEY'VE PLAYED RIGHT INTO MY HANDS! YOU'LL BE PART OF A PLAN THAT NOT ONLY ENDS SONIC, BUT UTTERLY HUMILIATES HIM, TOO! AREN'T YOU ECSTATIC?!
GLEE!
SHOULD I ORDER THE EGG BOSSES TO CALL OFF THE SEARCH FOR THE GAIA TEMPLES?
NO! TELL THEM NOTHING! SONIC AND HIS FUZZY BUDDIES THINK THEY'RE CLEVER, PLAYING IT COOL? WELL, THAT RUSE GOES BOTH WAYS!
GET ME A STATUS REPORT ON EGGMAN LAND!


UH...THE EGG BOSSES FINISHED SHIPPING IN BADNIKS, SO THE LOCAL HORDE IS BACK UP TO SNUFF. LEFT THE EGG BOSSES KINDA SHORT, THOUGH...
2,830 UNITS
100% ONLINE
99.975%
46% COMPLETE
THE DEFENSES ARE ALL BACK ONLINE, RUNNING OFF DARK GAIA POWER. REPAIR TO THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND SYSTEMS HAS BEEN SLOW...
...BUT ON THE BRIGHT SIDE, COLLECTION OF ALL THE WORLD'S DARK GAIA ENERGY IS NEARLY COMPLETE.
SET A COURSE FOR EGGMAN LAND!
WE MAY BE RUNNING ON FUMES NOW, BUT ONCE I EMPTY THE REFINERY OF ITS DARK GAIA ENERGY, THE DEATH EGG WILL BE ABLE TO RUN AT FULL POWER--FOREVER!
THERE'S ONLY ONE PIECE MISSING. THE ROYAL BRAT SAID THEY COULD ACCESS ALL THE GAIA TEMPLES FROM ONE POINT.
SO WHERE ...?
BEEP
I HAVE FOUND A TARGET OF INTEREST CONCERNING THE GAIA TEMPLES. I AM...
NEVERMIND THAT! I'M SENDING YOU COORDINATES. GET OVER THERE --ON THE DOUBLE!
THAT'S FROM WHEN METAL SONIC WAS INVESTIGATING A LEAD FROM THE GAIA MANUSCRIPTS. WE NEVER FOLLOWED UP ON THAT REGION.
MY TRANSLATION OF THE MANUSCRIPTS WAS...IFFY. I ASSUMED "GAIA GATE" MEANT THE DOORS TO THEIR CENTRAL CHAMBERS.
AND TAILS DOLL'S LOGS SHOW THE SKY PATROL TAKING A DELIBERATE FLIGHT PATH AFTER LEAVING APOTOS.
THAT'S IT! IT'S GOT TO BE THERE!


A VALIANT ATTEMPT, SONIC. YOUR PET PRINCESS HAD A GOOD PLAN. BUT NOW IT'S GAME OVER. AND I WIN!
CAN THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS PULL OFF THEIR PLAN IN TIME? OR HAS DR. EGGMAN GOTTEN THE UPPER HAND? THE SHATTERED WORLD SAGA ENTERS ITS FINAL ARC NEXT TIME IN SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #284-- "PANIC IN THE SKY!"
UNTIL THEN, DON'T MISS OUT ON KNUCKLES AND AMY'S ADVENTURE IN SONIC UNIVERSE, THE SONIC SUPER DIGEST AND THE GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY.

Letter from the EDITOR

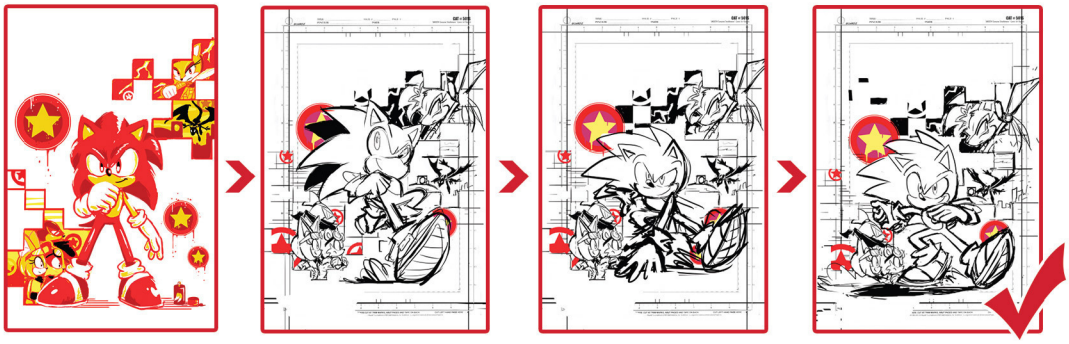
Editorial commentary made with the REAL SUPER POWER of TEAM WORK!

Yeah, that's right. I made a *Sonic Heroes* reference.

Well folks, this is it! The stage has been set for both hero and villain alike. Can the Freedom Fighters pull through and fix the planet, or will Dr. Eggman's newly-hatched scheme throw the Blue Blur into a spin?

Find out next issue as we enter the final arc of the SHATTERED WORLD SAGA: "Panic in the Sky"!

– Vincent "Vin" Lovallo
Editor

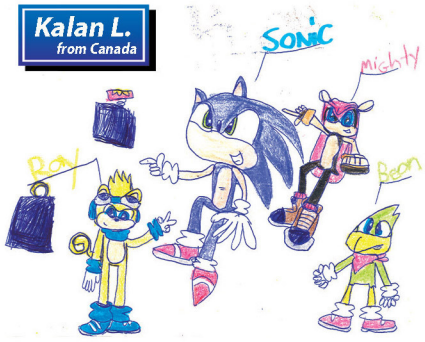


ABOVE: The initial cover thumbnail for this issue by yours truly is seen on the far left followed by sketch variations by artist Diana Skelly. The final approved sketch is seen on the far right.

SONIC™
THE HEDGEHOG

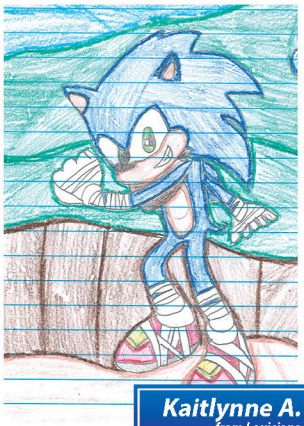
SONIC GRAMS FAN ART

Kalan L.
from Canada



Helen R.
from Minnesota

Abby F.
from Tennessee



Kaitlynne A.
from Louisiana

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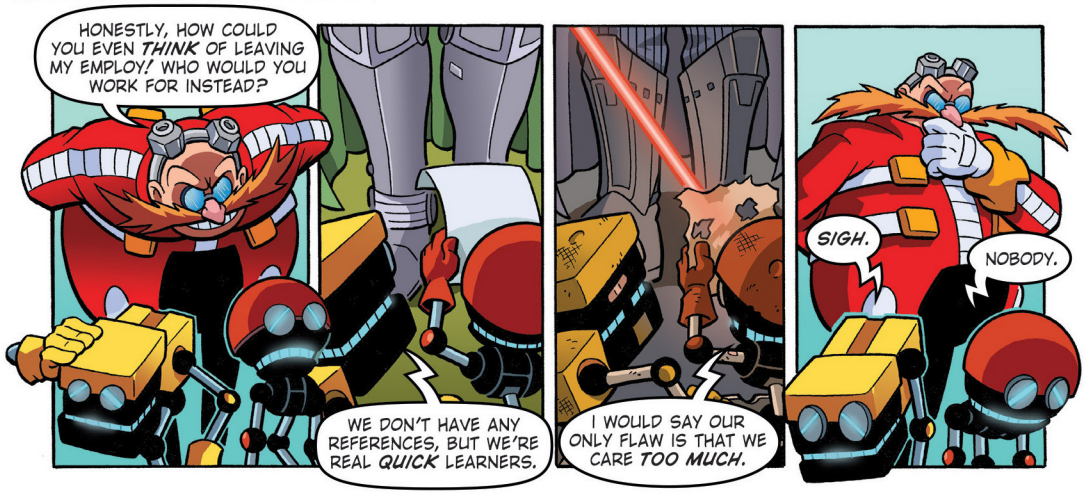
E-MAIL: SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM – OR TWEET AT US USING #SONICGRAMS!

OFF PANEL

BOTS ON BERADE


HONESTLY, HOW COULD YOU EVEN THINK OF LEAVING MY EMPLOY! WHO WOULD YOU WORK FOR INSTEAD?
WE DON'T HAVE ANY REFERENCES, BUT WE'RE REAL QUICK LEARNERS.
I WOULD SAY OUR ONLY FLAW IS THAT WE CARE TOO MUCH.
SIGH.
NOBODY.

SCRIPT: *ERIC ESQUIVEL* PENCILS: *LAMAR WELLS* INKS: *GARY MARTIN* COLORS: *ELAINA UNGER*

NEXT ISSUE: SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 284